(e) The steps taken/being taken to improve the power supply position in the country include augmentation of generating capacity by over 78,760 MW during the 11th Plan, development of a number of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW capacity each, harnessing surplus captive power in the grid, strengthening inter-State and inter-regional transmission capacity for optimum utilization of available power, promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures and taking up new hydro-power projects in Bhutan for import of hydro-power into India.

Private power plants in Bihar

1515. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has permitted establishment of any private power plants in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many private power plants have been given approval till financial year 2007-08 all over the country and where those plants are located; and

(d) the details regarding the status and progress of those private power plants which have already got clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) According to the Electricity Act, 2003, thermal generation has been delicensed and concurrence of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required to set up thermal power plants including those in the private sector. In case of hydro projects, concurrence of CEA is required under Section 8(1) of the Electricity Act for setting up of a hydro power generation station estimated to involve a capital expenditure exceeding such sum notified by the Central Government.

According to information available with the CEA, no proposal for establishing private power plants in Bihar has been received in CEA for its concurrence.

(c) and (d) Seven Hydro Power Plants having installed capacity of 3742 MW, which are presently under construction, have been concurred by CEA in the private sector upto 31st March, 2008. Besides the above, four other hydro power plants having an installed capacity of 369 MW has been accorded clearance by respective State Governments. Further, two Hydro-electric schemes, namely, Singoli Bhatwari (3x33MW) by M/s L&T Uttaranchal Hydro Ltd. and Alaknanda (3x100 MW) by M/s GMR Energy Ltd. (both in Uttarakhand) have been concurred by CEA during 2008-09.

Annual power loss

1516. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual power loss due to pilferage and theft alone; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the energy security obtainable under the 123 Agreement is almost equal to this quantity of power loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Prior to year 2001-02, utilities used to monitor Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses. Concept of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) loss was introduced in 2001-02. AT&C loss captures not only technical losses, but also captures theft, pilferages and commercial losses due to